GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4261
ANSWERED ON:10.04.2003
MODERNISATION OF RAILWAY STATIONS
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations modernised in the country, particularly in Maharashtra and in Tribal areas during the last three years;

(b) the funds allocated for this purpose, particularly to Western Railway, Station-wise;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that there is acute shortage of water at Railway Stations in Gujarat, particularly in Tribal areas and the quality of water is also low;

(d) if so, whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct any survey in this regard in the country, particularly in Western Railway;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for modernisation of Railway Stations and providing drinking water to passengers at railway stations, particularly in Tribal areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a)&(b): There are more than 8000 Railway stations on Indian Railways.Upgradation/renovation/modernisation of Railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken every year in accordance with the laid down norms based on traffic growth and inter-se priorities. Further, the Railway-wise list (State-wise list is not maintained) of major On-going Works and New Works under Plan Head `Passenger Amenities` is given in the `Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme of Railways, Part-II` presented annually to the Parliament alongwith the Budget Documents.Such works are financed from the provision made to the Zonal Railways under the Plan Head `Passenger Amenities`. The funds allotted to Western Railway under this Planhead were Rs. 20.28 crore, Rs. 19.54 crore and Rs. 23.75 crore during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively.

(c)to(f): The general availability of water in the tribal areas of Gujarat is satisfactory. However, there may be occasional short supplies because of electrical load shedding by State Electricity Board, short supply of water by Municipalities, equipment breakdowns, etc.

Drinking water, supplied at all Railway stations in Gujarat, is potable water. At all stations, water is supplied from either Railways` own sources or from outside sources like municipality, etc. after chlorination to ensure that drinking water is safe. Also, requirement vis-â€¦-vis availability of water at various stations is reviewed every year ahead of the summer season and necessary action taken to ensure adequate supply of water.